



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/632,806	08/04/2000	Lise Thibodeau	045636-5039	2513

9629 7590 06/12/2002

MORGAN LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP  
1111 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20004

EXAMINER

PARKIN, JEFFREY S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

1648

DATE MAILED: 06/12/2002

#7

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.  
09/632,806

Applicant(s)  
Thibodeau, L. And C. Lavallee

Examiner  
Jeffrey S. Parkin, Ph.D.

Art Unit  
1648



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 01 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08/04/00 and 11/14/00.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 6-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claims 6-20 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_ 6) ☐ Other:

Restriction Requirement

35 U.S.C. § 121

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

5           a. Group I, claim(s) 6-12, drawn to a **pharmaceutical formulation** comprising a **vaccine** composition and **film-forming polymer**, classified in class 424, subclasses 1.29, 188.1 and 208.1.

10           b. Group II, claim(s) 13 and 14, drawn to a **method of inhibiting HIV-1 infection** through the administration of a **recombinant HIV-1 envelope protein**, classified in class 424, subclass 188.1 and 208.1, and class 435, subclass 69.1.

15           c. Group III, claim(s) 15-20, drawn to a **vaccine composition** comprising a **recombinant envelope protein**, **pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle**, **adjuvant**, and **liposomes**, classified in class 424, subclasses 1.21, 188.1, and 208.1.

2. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

20           3. Inventions I and II are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together, or they have different modes of operation, or they have different functions, or they have different effects (refer to  
25           M.P.E.P. ¶s 806.04 and 808.01). In the instant case, the methodology of Group II neither requires nor uses the product of Group I. Accordingly, each invention is clearly drawn toward a different inventive entity.

30           4. Inventions I and III are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together, or they have different modes of operation, or they have different functions, or they have different effects (refer to  
35           M.P.E.P. ¶s 806.04 and 808.01). In the instant case, each of the products identified have different formulations and chemical

ingredients which impart unique properties to said products. Therefore, each invention is clearly drawn toward a different inventive concept.

5 5. Inventions III and II are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different  
10 process of using that product (M.P.E.P. ¶ 806.05(h)). In the instant case, the composition comprising the recombinant envelope protein can be employed in a number of materially different processes such as the generation of immunological reagents (e.g., polyclonal and monoclonal antibodies) in a host (e.g., murine),  
15 antibody capture assays, or affinity chromatography binding assays to identify other suitable binding partners. Moreover, the methodology of Group II can employ a number of materially different products such as nucleic acids encoding the envelope protein or recombinant expression vectors (e.g., vaccinia-based) encoding said  
20 protein.

6. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, requirement for independent  
25 searches, and recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper. Applicants are required under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to elect a single group for prosecution on the merits. Applicants are also reminded that the claims should be amended, if necessary, to reflect the election.

30

#### ***Claim Cancellation***

7. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in

compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a diligently-filed petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(h).

### *Correspondence*

8. Correspondence related to this application may be submitted to Group 1600 by facsimile transmission. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). Official communications should be directed toward one of the following Group 1600 fax numbers: (703) 308-4242 or (703) 305-3014. Informal communications may be submitted directly to the Examiner through the following fax number: (703) 308-4426. Applicants are encouraged to notify the Examiner prior to the submission of such documents to facilitate their expeditious processing and entry.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Jeffrey S. Parkin, Ph.D., whose telephone number is (703) 308-2227. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM. A message may be left on the examiner's voice mail service. If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisors, James Housel or Laurie Scheiner, can be reached at (703) 308-4027 or (703) 308-1122, respectively. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group 1600 receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Respectfully,

Jeffrey S. Parkin, Ph.D.  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 1648

10 June, 2002